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ENVELOPE

PTTCZYUW RUEKJCS0128 0151609-~~CCCC~~-RUCDGDA.

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HEADER

P
151609Z JAN 83
FM JCS WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEADWD/CSA WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUEADWD/PTC WASH DC
RUEAMCC/CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
RUEOFAA/JSOC FORT BRAGG NC
RUCJAAA/USCINCRED MACDILL AFB FL
RUCIFBA/MACOS INTEL CENTER SCOTT AFB IL//INW/INZ//
RUCJAAA/USCINCRED MACDILL AFB FL//RCJ2//
RUEBBJB/HQ AFOSI BOLLING AFB DC
RUEBARE/DIRNAVINVSERV WASHINGTON DC
RUDHAAB/CDRUSAITAC ARLINGTON HALL STATION VA
RUEOAYB/FSTC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA
RUCDGDA/CDRMICOM REDSTONE ARS AL//DRSMI-YX//
P R
151410Z JAN 83
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2804
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 5334
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 122
RUEHBU/AMEMBASS BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY 1688
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 815
RUESAS/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 737
RUESNA/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 542
INFO RUESUA/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO 5447
ZEN/AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE POUCH
ZEN/AMCONSUL SALVADOR DA BAHIA POUCH
ZEN/AMCONSUL RECIFE POUCH
BT

CONTROLS

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

SAO PAULO 0128

ROME FOR THE VATICAN OFFICE

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BODY

TAGS PGOV, PINS, SHUM, BR, IT, AR, UY, PA, CI, VT
SUBJECT BRAZILIAN CARDINAL RELEASES LIST OF 7,791 MISSING PERSONS (DESAPARECIDOS) IN ARGENTINA
1. (~~C~~ ENTIRE TEXT).
2. SUMMARY SAO PAULO' CARDINAL ARNS AND THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENS
E
OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SOUTHERN CONE RELEASED ON JANUARY 13 A LIST OF
7,791 PERSONS MISSING IN ARGENTINA OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS. THE LIST
,
ALONG WITH A CALENDAR COMMEMORATING MISSING CHILDREN, WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE POPE BY CARDINAL ARNS. THE LIST HAS BEEN HAILED AS THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE TO DATE. END SUMMARY.
3. CARDINAL DOM PAULO EVARISTO ARNS, ARCHBISHOP OF SAO PAULO, REVEALE
D
AT A JANUARY 13 PRESS CONFERENCE A LIST OF 7,791 "DESAPARECIDOS" IN ARGENTINA BETWEEN DECEMBER 1977 AND DECEMBER 1982, THE LIST INCLUDES
CITIZENS OF TWENTY-SEVEN COUNTRIES, AMONG WHICH ARE THIRTEEN BRAZILIANS. THIS LIST, ACCORDING TO THE CARDINAL AND AUGUSTO CONTE, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA, IS MORE COMPLETE THAN ANY TO DATE, INCLUDING THOSE OF AMNESTY INTERNATION. ARNS STATED THAT ALL NAMES WERE CHECKED WITH AT LEAST TWO INDEPENDENT SOURCES BEFORE PUBLICATION.
4. THE LIST WAS COMPILED AFTER TWO AND A HALF YEARS OF WORK BY THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SOUTHERN CONE (CLAMOR). CLAMOR IS A HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAO PAULO. EIGHT ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
S
ALSO COLLABORATED, ALONG WITH SOME GROUPS FROM URUGUAY, AND AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL.
5. THE DIRECTOR OF CLAMOR, JAIME WRIGHT, TOLD THE PRESS THAT THE NUMBERS OF DESAPARECIDOS COULD REACH 15 THOUSAND. (NOTE WRIGHT IS A
PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER, BORN IN BRAZIL OF AMERICAN MISSIONARY PARENTS.

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HIS BROTHER IS A "DESAPARECIDO" IN BRAZIL SINCE 1973.) WRIGHT STATED
IN TELCON WITH POLOFF THAT THE INFORMATION USED TO COMPILE THE LIST CAME MAINLY FROM MIDDLE AND UPPER-CLASS (READ "POLITICALLY AWARE") ARGENTINIANS. ACCORDING TO WRIGHT, IT IS ONLY RECENTLY THAT INFORMATI
ON
FROM NORTHERN ARGENTINA HAS BEGUN TO TRICKLE IN, AND INFORMATION FROM THE LOWER CLASSES IS STILL VERY RARE.
6. ON MONDAY, JANUARY 17TH, CARDINAL ARNS WILL PERSONALLY DELIVER A COPY OF THE LIST TO THE POPE. A COPY HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THE PAPAL NUNCIO IN ARGENTINAN, MONSIGNOR UBALDO CALABRESI. ANOTHER COPY WAS SENT INDIRECTLY TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT VIA ITS EMBASSY IN DENMARK.
7. AT ARNS' PRESS CONFERENCE POLOFF ALSO RECEIVED A MIMEOGRAPHED LIST
OF DESAPARECIDOS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES 128 BRAZILIANS IN BRAZI
L
SINCE 1964; 3 BRAZILIANS IN CHILE SINCE 1973; 13 BRAZILIANS IN ARGENTINA SINCE 1973; AND 2 ARGENTINAIANS IN BRAZIL SINCE 1982. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHO AUTHORED THIS LIST, BUT PRESUMABLY IT ALSO WAS COMPILED BY ONE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE'S HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS.
8. AMCONGEN SAO PAULO IS POUCHING COPY OF LIST (415 PAGES) AND CALENDAR TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES FOR ITS PERUSAL AND TO PASS TO WASHINGTON IF IT SO DESIRES.
9. COMMENT THE BRAZILIAN CHURCH, UNDER THE ACTIVIST LEADERSHIP OF CARDINAL ARNS, HAS TAKEN THE LATIN AMERICAN RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE DISAPPEARANCE OF PERSONS FOR POLITICAL REASONS. ACCORDING TO WRIGHT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VATICAN AND
THE GOA MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THE ARGENTINE CHURCH TO CONDUCT FAR REACHING INVESTIGATIONS, AND THEREFORE THE BRAZILIAN CHURCH HAS TAKEN
OVER THE ROLE. PUSHING THE INVESTIGATION OF THE DESAPARECIDOS HAS BEEN A WAY OF KEEPING THE QUESTION BEFORE THE PUBLIC AND THUS DISCOURAGING THIS TYPE OF ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS. OF THE SOUTHERN CONE OF LATIN AMERICA. ARNS' PRESS CONFERENCE WAS HELD ON THE SAME DAY THAT THE PRESIDENTS OF BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA WERE MEETING WITH ONE ANOTHER ON THEIR COUNTRIES' BORDERS. ARNS PROBABLY SCHEDULED THE PRESS CONFERENCE FOR THAT DAY SINCE IT HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED IN ADVANCE THAT BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT
FIGUEIREDO WOULD NOT RAISE THE QUESTION OF THE DESAPARECIDOS WITH ARGENTINIAN PRESIDENT BIGNONE. THE TIMING WAS TOO PERFECT TO BE MERELY COINCIDENTAL. END COMMENT. LEARY

ADMIN

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